

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
HA-05 IO-13 /084 W
-----089508 131754Z /43

R 120948Z SEP 78
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1986
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 2848

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PINS, SHUM, CH
SUBJ: THIRD NATIONAL PUBLIC SECURITY CONFERENCE CONCLUDES

1. THE THIRD NATIONAL PUBLIC SECURITY WORK CONFERENCE WAS HELD IN PEKING FROM AUGUST 11 TO AUGUST 31, ACCORDING TO THE SEPTEMBER 5 PEOPLE'S DAILY. MINISTER OF PUBLIC SECURITY CHAO TSANG-PI'S SPEECH AT THE CONFERENCE HAS NOT YET BEEN RELEASED. THE PEOPLE'S DAILY ARTICLE REPORTED THAT IN 1977 CRIMINAL CASES WERE AT THE LOWEST LEVELS IN TEN YEARS. THE CONFERENCE RESOLVED TO INCREASE VIGILANCE AGAINST "MURDERERS, ARSONISTS, RAPISTS, LOOTERS, ROBBERS, CHEATERS AND HOOLIGAN CLIQUES."

2. A SEPTEMBER 5 PEOPLE'S DAILY EDITORIAL COMMENTED THAT THERE ARE STILL SERIOUS PROBLEMS IN PUBLIC SECURITY WORK AND PUBLIC SECURITY ORGANS MUST BE PLACED UNDER THE DIRECT LEADERSHIP OF PARTY COMMITTEES AND MUST OBEY ALL STATE LAWS AND PARTY REGULATIONS. THIS COULD BE A RESPONSE TO WALLPOSTER CRITICISM, PARTICULARLY IN PEKING, THAT PUBLIC

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SECURITY ORGANS OFTEN IGNORED STATE REGULATIONS AND ARBITRARILY ARRESTED CITIZENS FOR ALLEGED POLITICAL CRIMES. THE EDITORIAL HELD UP THE EXPERIENCES OF WENCHOU AND CHUCHI COUNTY IN CHEKIANG AND PAOTING IN HOPEI AS MODELS FOR EMULATION. FACTIONALISM AND LAWLESSNESS WERE RAMPANT IN THESE AREAS DURING THE GANG OF FOUR ERA BUT RECENT REPORTS INDICATE THAT BOTH CITIES HAVE BEEN BROUGHT UNDER EFFECTIVE CONTROL

SINCE 1976.

3. RECTIFICATION OF PUBLIC SECURITY ORGANS WAS ALSO EMPHASIZED IN THE EDITORIAL. PUBLIC SECURITY ORGANS IN SEVERAL AREAS, PARTICULARLY IN PEKING AND IN KIRIN, ARE APPARENTLY STILL TROUBLED BY FACTIONALISM AND THE "PERNICIOUS INFLUENCE" OF THE GANG OF FOUR. HOWEVER, BOTH THE REPORT AND THE EDITORIAL SHY AWAY FROM HARSH CRITICISM OF PUBLIC SECURITY WORK, MORE THAN LIKELY BECAUSE HUA KUO-FENG WAS MINISTER OF PUBLIC SECURITY FROM 1975 TO 1976. WOODCOCK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NATIONAL SECURITY, CITIZEN PROTECTION, SOCIAL SERVICES, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 sep 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PEKING02848
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780372-0874
Format: TEL
From: PEKING
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780976/aaaaclek.tel
Line Count: 72
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 83d15b52-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1467656
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THIRD NATIONAL PUBLIC SECURITY CONFERENCE CONCLUDES
TAGS: PINT, PINS, SHUM, PORS, CH
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/83d15b52-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014